

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-31 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 7-9, 12-14 and 17-20 are amended; and Claims 21-31 are added by the present amendment.

Claim amendments and new claims find support in the specification as originally filed at least at page 22, line 34 to page 23, line 17 and Figure 10. Thus, it is believed no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,956,716 to Kenner et al. (herein “Kenner”). Applicants respectfully traverse that rejection.

Applicants and Applicants’ representative gratefully acknowledge the courtesy of a personal interview with Examiner Chen on May 10, 2005. During the interview, differences between the claimed invention and references cited in the outstanding Office Action were discussed. Further, claim amendments were discussed to more clearly identify the claimed features and distinguish the claimed invention over the cited references. Comments and claim amendments discussed during the interview are reiterated below.

Amended Claim 1 is directed to a multimedia data retrieval method that includes, *inter alia*, extracting an event name from a retrieval request, where the event name is a name of an event at which a multimedia data is originally created. The method also includes obtaining at least one of time information and location information corresponding to the extracted event name and retrieving a multimedia data by using at least one of the time information and the location information as retrieval keys. Amended independent Claims 1, 7-9, 12-14 and 17-20 include similar features.

In a non-limiting example, Figure 10 shows steps in a method according to an embodiment of the present invention that includes step S2, which extracts event names from a retrieval request (e.g., extracting an event name), and step S3 which looks up in an index table to obtain time information and location information corresponding to the event name. Figure 9 shows an example of an index table that includes event names (e.g., “Nagano Olympics”) and associated time information, in this case start time and end time (e.g., a time at which the multimedia data is originally created), and location information, in this case latitude and longitude information (e.g., a location of an event at which the multimedia data is originally created).

This arrangement allows human users to more easily retrieve multimedia data information by accessing that information using event names rather than by only accessing the information through time and location information.

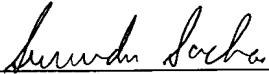
As discussed during the interview, Kenner does not teach or suggest the features of the claimed invention. In particular, Kenner does not describe extracting an event name from a retrieval request. Kenner only indicates that a video ID, which is a “globally unique name of the video clip.”¹ However, Kenner does not indicate that the video ID contains any information regarding a name of an event at which a multimedia data is originally created and also does not indicate any information regarding the time or location of the event at which the multimedia data is originally created. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Kenner does not teach or suggest “extracting an event name from a retrieval request, said event name being a name of event at which a multimedia data is originally created,” as recited in the amended independent claims.

¹ Kenner at column 22, line 22-23.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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